



BOROUGH OF LEIGH

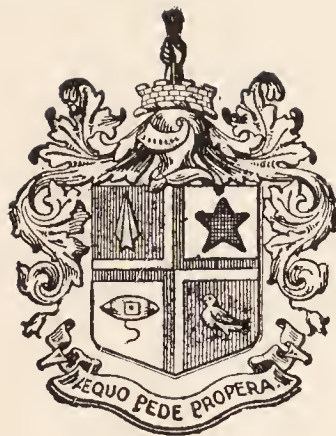
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year ending 31st December, 1933



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BOROUGH OF LEIGH, 1933.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

Councillor T. R. GREENOUGH, J.P.

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor SEDDON

The MAYOR (Councillor W. R. BOYDELL, J.P.)

Alderman COLLIER, J.P.

„ FAIRHURST, J.P.

„ W. GRUNDY, J.P.

„ HIGENBOTTAM, J.P.

„ W. HINDLEY, J.P.

Councillor BATTERSBY

„ GIBSON

„ GOUGH

„ HASELDINE

„ T. HINDLEY, J.P.

„ MACK, J.P.

„ STARKIE

„ J. W. UNSWORTH

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Office held.	Name.	Qualifications.	Other Offices held.
$x^*\dagger$ Medical Officer of Health...	J. Clay Beckitt ...	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	School Medical Officer
x^* Assistant Medical Officer of Health	...W. Aulay ... McLennan...	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,	Assistant School Medical Officer
\dagger Chief Sanitary Inspector...	Edwin Jackson ...	A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.	Inspector under the Canal boats Acts. Rat Officer
\dagger Sanitary Inspector...	Wm. T. Frost ...	Cert. R.San.I., M.S.I.A.	...
\dagger „	...Arthur N. Nicklin	Cert. R.San.I., M.S.I.A.	...
\dagger „	...J. Blakeley	...Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.	...
Veterinary Surgeon...	James Holt	...M.R.C.V.S.	...Diseases of Animals Act
x^* Health Nurse ..	Miss A. B. Belyea.	Children's Training Cert. Midwife. R.S.I. Cert. for Women Health Visitors and School Nurses.	School Nurse.
x^* „	...Miss C. A. Smith..	General and Fever Training. S.R.N.	School Nurse
x^* „	...Miss A. M. Boydell.	General Training Cert. Midwife. S.R.N. Cert. Q.V.J.I.	School Nurse
x^* „	...Miss L. M. Goulden	General Training Cert. Midwife. S.R.N.	School Nurse
x^* „	...Miss M. Smith	...Health Visitor's Experience, Cert. Midwife	School Nurse
x^* „	...Miss D. Lea	...General Training Cert. Midwife. S.R.N. Health Visitor's Cert.	School Nurse
Puerperal Fever Nurse	Mrs. Dickinson..	General Training	...Private
Senior Clerk	...S. Cunningham	} Also engaged in School Medical Work	
Clerk	..Miss H. Mulrooney		
Junior Clerk	...H. Burrow		

x Contribution to salary by Government Grant.

\dagger Contribution to salary by the County Council.

*Engaged jointly in Maternity and Child Welfare and School Medical Work.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF—Continued

MATERNITY HOME.

Office held.		Name.		Qualifications.
Medical Officer	...	J. Clay Beckitt	...	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
*Matron	...	Miss R. M. Roberts	...	General Training Certified Midwife State Registered
*Sister	...	Miss S. J. Storey	...	General Training Certified Midwife State Registered
*Staff Nurse	...	Miss C. Ross	...	General Training Certified Midwife State Registered
* „	...	Miss E. A. Atherton	...	General Training Certified Midwife State Registered
* „	...	Miss K. Forshaw	...	General Training Certified Midwife State Registered
* „	...	Miss F. Ainsworth	...	General Training Certified Midwife State Registered Health Visitor's Cert.
* „	...	Miss R. Wylie	...	General Training Certified Midwife State Registered

*Contribution to salary by Government Grant,

REPORT OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR 1933

Public Health Department,

Town Hall,

Leigh, Lancs.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee
of the Borough of Leigh.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report on the Health and Sanitary condition of your Borough for the year ending 31st December, 1933.

It contains the information required by the Ministry of Health in accordance with the circular setting out the Contents and Arrangements of the Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health, and is an Ordinary Report as distinct from the Survey Report.

The Population of the Borough at the Census of 1931 was 45,317 but for statistical purposes at Mid-year 1933 was estimated by the Registrar-General as 45,190.

I have to report a decrease in the number of registered live births. It is 657 compared with 674 last year.

During the year 51 children under one year died, making a rate of 77 per 1,000 births.

I have to acknowledge indebtedness to various charitable agencies for assistance in circumstances of distress and difficulty outside the scope of the Municipal organisation. Particularly I would mention the Save the Children Fund, the Needlework Guild, the District Nursing Association, the Guild of Help, the Leigh Health Society and the Women's Guild of Service.

My thanks are due to the ladies who so generously give their services week by week to assist in carrying on the work at the Welfare Centres. Without their help the paid staff would have to be enlarged or the work considerably diminished.

In addition I wish to thank all members of the Staff for their ungrudging help and loyal co-operation at all times, and particularly for the extra work involved in carrying out the arrangements for the Health Week programme.

At the same time I would like to take this opportunity of placing on record my appreciation of the cordial support afforded me by the Members of the Health Committee and the Council.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. CLAY BECKITT,

Medical Officer of Health.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The inhabitants of the Borough consist almost entirely of the industrial class, coal mining occupying the largest number of any single trade, closely followed by textile workers, chiefly in cotton. The insufficiency of houses is keenly felt by the working classes, and the overcrowding must of necessity prejudicially influence their social life. I consider the smoky condition of the atmosphere has a deleterious influence on the general health and predisposes to respiratory diseases, particularly bronchitis and pneumonia.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres (Census 1931).....	6,359
Population (Estimate, middle of 1933).....	45,190
Population (Census 1931).....	45,317
Population (Census 1921).....	45,532
Density of Population per acre.....	7.1
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1933).....	11,600
Average Number of Persons per House.....	3.89
Rateable Value.....	£210,990
Sum represented by a Penny Rate.....	£879
General Rate (1933)	13/6
Birth Rate—per thousand population.....	14.5
Standardized Death Rate—per thousand population.....	13.8
Maternal Mortality Rate—per thousand births.....	1.52
Infantile Mortality Rate—per thousand births.....	77

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1933.

			Total.		Male.		Female.	
Live Births	{	Legitimate	...	636	...	335	...	301
		Illegitimate	...	21	...	10	...	11
								Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... 14·5
Still-births	{	Legitimate	...	46	...	26	...	20
		Illegitimate	...	1	...	—	...	1
								Rate per 1000 total (live and still-births) births ... 66
Deaths	...	...	...	624	...	329	...	295
								Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... 13·8
Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth ...								Nil
Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth ...								1
Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth ...								1
Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—								
All infants per 1000 live births				...	...	...	...	77
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births				...	...	...	...	72
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births				...	...	...	...	238
Deaths from Measles (all ages)				...	...	...	...	Nil
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)				...	...	...	...	Nil
,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)				...	...	...	...	5

Specify any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or required comment :—

Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Heart Disease.

	Birth- rate.	Death- rate.	Phthisis Death- rate.	Rate of Deaths under 1 year per 1000 live Births.
1932	14·8	13·0	0·39	84
1933	14·5	13·8	0·68	77
Mean of 5 years, 1928-1932 ...	14·9	12·7	0·61	92
Increase or Decrease in 1933 on—				
Five Years' Average .. 1928-32	-0·4	+1·1	-0·07	-15
Previous Year	-0·3	+0·8	-0·29	-7

POPULATION

At the Census of 1931 the actual population enumerated was 45,317, and the Registrar-General's estimate for Mid-year 1933 was 45,190. According to the Census returns the population of the respective wards was as follows :—

Etherstone.....	4,601
Hope Carr.....	4,320
Lilford.....	4,449
St. Joseph.....	5,190
St. Mary.....	10,780
St. Paul.....	7,481
St. Peter.....	3,954
St. Thomas.....	4,542

CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

From information received by consulting death returns, and cause of absence from School of elementary school children, etc., I gather heart disease, pneumonia, bronchitis, cancer have been responsible for the largest number of cases of sickness and death.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH, 1933 (Estimated on the figures given by the Registrar General).

GENERAL DISEASES.

	No. of deaths.	Per cent. of total deaths.	Death-rate per 1000 of population
Diarrhœa (under 2 years) ...	5	0·80	0·11
Specific Fevers ...	2	0·32	0·04
Influenza ...	43	6·89	0·95
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—

CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES.

Tuberculosis of respiratory system...	31	4·96	0·68
Other Tubercular Diseases ...	5	0·80	0·11
Cancer ...	63	10·09	1·39

DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASE.

Congenital Debility, &c. ...	25	4·00	0·55
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LOCAL DISEASES.

Heart and Circulatory System ...	137	21·95	3·03
Respiratory System—			
(a) Bronchitis ..	59	9·45	1·30
(b) Pneumonia (all forms) ...	36	5·77	0·79
(c) Other Respiratory Diseases	10	1·60	0·22
Urinary System	25	4·00	0·55
Reproductive System—			
(a) Puerperal Sepsis ...	—	—	—
(b) Other Puerperal Causes ...	1	1·60	0·02

VIOLENT CAUSES.

Accidents ...	19	3·04	0·42
Suicides ...	7	1·12	0·15

OTHER DISEASES.

...	156	23·74	3·45
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Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1938.

	Birth-rate per 1,000 total population.		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population.								Rate per 1,000 Births.	
	Live Births	Still Births.	All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
Leigh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
England and Wales	14.5	1.04	13.8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.57	7.6	77
118 Great Towns, including London (Census Populations exceeding 50,000)	14.4	0.62	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.06	0.54	7.1	64
132 Smaller Towns (1931 Adjusted Populations 25,000—50,000)	14.4	0.67	12.2	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.02	0.06	0.08	0.49	9.4	67
London	14.5	0.63	11.0	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.44	4.9	56
	13.2	0.45	12.2	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.08	0.08	0.58	11.6	59

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS AND HOSPITALS.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) **General.**—A Local District Nursing Association, supported entirely by voluntary contributions, carries on a very useful work. Three fully-trained Nurses are engaged and render very highly appreciated service in the homes. They are not allowed to visit infectious cases nor attend confinements. There is no definite scheme of co-operation between the Association and the Public Health Department of the Local Authority, but constant reference from one to the other is carried out by the staffs. The Corporation does not subscribe to the funds of the Nursing Association. Occasionally a local private trained nurse is available for engagement, but such services are usually supplied through private nurses' homes in one of the neighbouring towns.

(b) **Infectious Diseases.**—The Health Nurses meet the demand as far as possible in the case of children suffering from Measles, Diarrhœa, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, &c. Arrangements have been made with the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital to provide in-patient treatment to infants suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum if such treatment is requested by the medical practitioner.

A fee of £3 3s. od. per week is paid by the local authority, to include the mother of the patient.

Under the Public Health (Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations, 1926, arrangements have been made with a Specialist attached to a teaching hospital to visit the homes of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia patients for consultation on request of the Medical Attendant.

Also under similar circumstances for the supply of a trained nurse.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Arrangements exist for the bacteriological examination of swabs and sputum, the carrying out of Widal tests, and examination of cerebro-spinal fluid. Telephonic communication is made to the medical practitioner in cases of positive results, and a report by post is sent in every case to this department.

The following table shows the number submitted during the year, with the results :—

Specimen.			Positive.		Negative.		Total.
Throat Swab	...	...	3	...	80	...	83
Sputum	...	...	—	...	—	...	—
Blood Test...	...	...	—	...	1	...	1
Fæces	...	...	—	...	3	...	3
Eye Swabs	...	...	—	...	2	...	2

Diphtheria anti-toxin and swabs are supplied by the Local Authority and special arrangements are made to facilitate the distribution to medical practitioners so that they may always have in their possession one swab and a preliminary dose of serum for immediate use. They are encouraged to administer an early application even to very doubtful cases of the disease.

Sputum of tubercular patients is usually examined by the Tuberculosis Service of the Lancashire County Council.

Samples of water are submitted to the Public Analyst or the Manchester University Public Health Laboratory.

Milk is tested for tuberculosis in Messrs. Evan's Biological Institute, Runcorn.

Analyses under the Food and Drugs Acts are carried out by the Public Analyst, the County Police taking and submitting the samples.

PRIVATE AND ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

Name of Act.	Date of Adoption.
Leigh Corporation Act	... September, 1903
Baths and Wash-houses Act, 1879	... In or about 1879
Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889...	27th November, 1889
Private Street Works Act, 1892	... 30th July, 1895
Libraries Act, 1892	... 27th September, 1892
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890 :	
Parts II. and III.	... 26th April, 1892
Parts IV. and V.	... 9th November, 1900
Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890 :	
Part III.	... 11th March, 1902
Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890...	14th October, 1902
Museum and Gymnasiums Act, 1891	... 11th March, 1902
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 :	<div> By Order of the Local Government Board, dated 1st May, 1913, which Order repealed the following Sections of the Leigh Corporation Act, 1903 : Sections, 151, 167 (so far as relates to Sec. 34 of the Act of 1907), 210, 211 and 212. </div>
Part II., Sections 22, 30 and 33	
Part III., Sections 34, 36, 37, 49 and 51	
Part IV., Sections 55, 56, 63, 64 and 65	
Part V. (whole)	
Part X. (whole)	
Leigh Corporation Act, 1920	...
Public Health Act, 1925 :	
Part II., III., IV., V.	... 19th April, 1926
Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926	... 16th May, 1927

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE WITHIN THE DISTRICT.

	Date when made by Council.	Approved by Government Department.
Prohibition of Book-making, Betting or Wagering in Public Places	...16th Oct. 1900 ...	—
Compulsory Lighting of Vehicles	...13th Mar. 1900...	3rd May 1900
Prevention of Danger from Telegraph Wires, &c.	...12th Mar. 1901...	7th Oct. 1901
Markets	...30th Aug. 1901..	15th Oct. 1901
Omnibuses	...10th Sept. 1901...	26th Oct. 1901
Management, Use and Regulation of the Public Baths	...10th Sept. 1901...	29th Oct. 1901
Drainage of Existing Buildings	... 8th April 1902...	31st May 1902
New Streets and Buildings	...11th Aug. 1925...	3rd Nov. 1925
Slaughter-houses	...14th Oct. 1902 ...	29th Nov. 1902
Offensive Trades	...14th Oct. 1902 ...	29th Nov. 1902
Common Lodging-houses	..14th Oct 1902 ..	29th Nov. 1902
Nuisances	... 9th Nov. 1903...	2nd Jan. 1904
Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar Structures used for Human Habi- tation in the Borough of Leigh	...13th Oct. 1908 ...	23rd Dec. 1908
Provision of Means of Escape in case of Fire in certain Factories and Workshops in the Borough of Leigh	... 8th June 1909 ...	2nd July 1909
For the Good Rule and Government of the Borough of Leigh and for the Prevention of Nuisances	...11th May 1909 ...	—
Rear Lights on Vehicles	... 8th Oct. 1912 ...	28th Nov. 1912
For Regulating the Employment of Children	...10th Aug. 1920...	22nd Jan. 1921
Regulations as to Internal Water Fittings, Service Pipes, &c.	...March 1907 ...	—
Regulating the Travelling and Pre- vention of Nuisances in Motor Omnibuses	...13th June 1922 ...	23rd Aug. 1922
Pleasure Grounds	...12th Dec. 1922 ...	7th Feb. 1923
Smoke Abatement	...29th Oct. 1929 ...	19th Dec. 1929
Nursing Homes	...29th Oct. 1929 ...	19th Dec. 1929
Houses let in Lodgings	...11th April 1933...	1st June 1933

HOSPITALS

There is no change to report in the hospital services of the district.

The Maternity Home, the only residential institution belonging to the Leigh Corporation, has 18 beds, and is steadily becoming more widely known and more increasingly utilised.

The particulars of the Home are as follows :—

<i>Name and situation of Institution.</i>	<i>Purpose and No. of beds.</i>	<i>By whom provided.</i>
Leigh Maternity Home The Firs, LEIGH.	Maternity 18 beds.	M. & C. W. Committee of Leigh Corporation.

Staff :—1 Medical Officer.
1 Matron.
1 Sister.
5 Staff Nurses.

The patients are attended by their own Medical Practitioner, as desired or necessary.

The following are the particulars for the year ending 31st December, 1933 :—

(1) No. of cases admitted	...	...	231
(2) Average duration of stay	...	...	13·25 days
(3) No. of cases notified as :—			
(a) Puerperal fever	...	...	Nil
(b) Puerperal pyrexia	...	...	1
(c) Puerperal mania	...	...	Nil
(d) Pemphigus neonatorum	...	...	Nil
(e) Ophthalmia neonatorum	...	...	1
(4) No. of infants not entirely breast fed whilst in the Institution and reason why—			
(a) Mother—General Debility...	...	...	10
(b) ,, Death	...	..	1
	Total	...	<hr/> 11 <hr/>
(5) No. of maternal deaths and cause ..	...	...	1
(a) Influenzal Pneumonia	...	...	1

(6) No. of foetal deaths and cause :—

(a) Still-born ...	...	...	...	15
Macerated	...	...	8	
Hydrocephalic	...	...	4	
Instrumental Delivery	...	...	3	
(b) Within 10 days of birth	...	...	...	8
Intracranial hæmorrhage...	...	...	4	
Prematurity	...	...	4	
(7) No. of children born	...	...	...	224
(8) Transferred to Leigh Infirmary for Cæsarean				
		Section...		3
(9) Admitted for Ante-natal treatment		...		4

The Local Authority has not entered into any arrangements for the employment of consultants except under the Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations.

There is no definite co-operation between the Voluntary Hospitals and the Corporation, but by subscribing to the hospital funds admission of a limited number of patients is procured.

The following is a list of the Annual Subscriptions to Hospitals :—

			£	s.	d.
Manchester Eye Hospital	...	...	21	0	0
Manchester Ear Hospital	...	...	5	5	0
Manchester Royal Infirmary	...	...	72	9	0
St. Mary's Hospital	...	...	13	13	0
Manchester Children's Hospital	...	...	26	5	0
Leigh Infirmary	...	...	73	10	0
Salford Royal Hospital	...	...	10	10	0
N.S.P.C.C.	...	...	3	3	0
Total	...	...	£225	15	0

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) For infectious cases.—Motor ambulances for removal of infectious cases to the Sanatorium at Astley are provided by the Joint Hospital Board, and are housed at the Sanatorium.

(b) For non-infectious and accident cases.—Four motor ambulances are provided by the Local Authority and housed at the Fire Station. Residents are removed free within the Borough and to a distance up to 15 miles if being conveyed to a Hospital, Infirmary or Nursing Home.

(c) Maternity patients are removed in the motor ambulances of the Local Authority.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Although nothing has been done in the way of providing new clinics considerable extension of the facilities of those in existence has been made particularly in the direction of the care of the expectant mother.

The receiving room of the Maternity Home is used to house an Ante-Natal Clinic at which the private practitioner is invited to carry out his ante-natal work. Sterilized maternity outfits are supplied, free or at cost price, on the request of doctor or midwife, for mothers confined in their own homes. The midwives are invited to accompany their patients to the ante-natal Clinic and take part in the examination of those in whom they are interested. Notification of the attendance of the expectant mother to the Clinic is sent to the midwife along with the necessary advice, when she does not accompany her patient. Educational pamphlets urging the necessity of ante-natal attention and pointing out the facilities provided for the purpose are distributed to expectant women and others and the importance of the matter is emphasised in the Health Week literature and addresses.

Milk, etc., free or at reduced price, and home helps have been provided for some time.

The following are a few of the details of the work of the Centres for 1933 :—

- 428 babies were entered on the books.
- 4468 attendances by infants.
- 1106 consultations.
- 259 ante-natal consultations.
- 9 deaths of babies on the books.

FOOD DISTRIBUTED AT CENTRES.

	Free.	Sold.
Cow Milk (pints)	... 1490	—
Dried Milk (1lb. packets)	... 7789½	6255½
Vitamine Malt (various)	... 499½	656
Emulsion (various)	... 1092	370
Haliverol	... —	7
Horlicks (bottles)	... 1	48

MIDWIVES

Since 1st April, 1931, the Borough Council has been the Local Supervising Authority under the Midwives Acts 1902-1926.

The number of Certified Midwives on the Register on 31st December 1933 was 28.

Of these, 26 or 92·8 per cent. were trained and 2 were bona-fides, *i.e.*, were registered by virtue of being in practice at the time the Midwives' Act 1902 came into force.

Records from Midwives.

The following statement shows the number of copies of "medical help" records in respect of abnormality received from midwives during the year.

(a) Pregnancy.....	39
(b) Labour.....	131
(c) Lying-in.....	9
(d) Of the Child.....	37
	<hr/>
Total.....	216
	<hr/>

The following table gives the number of notifications received from the Certified Midwives during the period :—

(a) Record of sending for Medical Help.....	216
(b) Deaths of Mother or Child.....	12
(c) Stillbirths.....	12
(d) Laying out of the dead.....	7
(e) Liability to be a source of infection.....	3
(f) Artificial feeding.....	13

Payment of Doctors' Fees.

Under the Midwives Act, 1918, the number of claims from medical practitioners called in by midwives in "cases of emergency" as defined by the rules of the Central Midwives Board was 95, amounting to the sum of £140 11s. 6d.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

All maternal deaths are investigated by the Medical Officer of Health and reported to the Maternal Mortality Committee of the Ministry of Health on forms supplied for the purpose.

The assistance of the medical attendant, midwife and all those associated with the case is sought in an endeavour to secure all the facts on which to base an opinion of the cause and find future preventative measures.

Necessity for such enquiry has arisen in one case only during the year.

Similarly an investigation is made in all cases of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

The Maternal Mortality Rate, which is the number of Maternal deaths per 1,000 live births, is 1.52 for the year under review. The mortality from Puerperal Sepsis is nil. The total maternal mortality compares very favourably with that of the country as a whole, the rate for England & Wales for 1932 being 4.21 per 1,000 live births.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

The Public Health (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations came into operation on the 1st October, 1926.

The medical practitioner is required to notify each case to the local Medical Officer of Health and the Local Authority must make arrangements to provide, on the request of the medical practitioner, one or more of the following :—

- (a) A second medical opinion on the case.
- (b) A bacteriological examination.
- (c) Admission of the patient into an appropriate hospital.
- (d) The services of a trained nurse at home.

Arrangements for all these services have been made and during the year 1933, requests were made and complied with under the respective headings as follows :—

- (a) 2
- (b) Nil.
- (c) 1
- (d) 1

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Similar Regulations exist with regard to Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

By notification and medical help records received from Midwives 8 cases of inflammation of, or discharge from the eyes came under notice. Of these, five were notified as Ophthalmia Neonatorum by the medical practitioner.

One child, along with its mother, was admitted to Hospital.

The vision was not impaired.

HEALTH VISITING

The Health Nurses made 4,342 home visits during the year of which 2,486 were to children between the ages of 1 and 5 years.

The arrangements for visiting are adequate and all the facilities provided by the Education Committee for treatment at their Clinics are also available for Children of pre-school age.

The following is a summary of the Health Nurses' work :—

Primary Visits	...	...	under 1 year 683	} 691
			over 1 year 8	
Re-visits...	...	...	3651	{ under 1 year, 1173
				{ over 1 year, 2478
Still-births	...	..	...	47
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	42
Visits to Workshops	...	...	...	24
Interviews	...	...	...	534
Ante-Natal Visits...	...	...	...	52
Puerperal Fever Visits	...	...	...	—
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	783

Day Nurseries.—There are none in the district.

CHILDREN ACT, 1908

Registers are kept of Infants who are Received for Reward, and of Persons Receiving Infants for Reward, and the residences of the infants frequently visited.

The Health Nurses are authorised to exercise the powers of Infant Protection Visitors, and in addition make frequent enquiries to ascertain whether there are other infants in respect of whom notice should have been given.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT

Arrangements have been made with the Lancashire County Council for orthopaedic treatment.

Four cases were referred to the Orthopaedic Clinic at Tyldesley suffering from the following :—

Talipes	1
Rickets	2
Undiagnosed ¹	1

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS AND HOMELESS CHILDREN.

No institutional provision is made.

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

(1) Number of applications for registration	...	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of homes registered	...	...	...	Nil
(3) Number of orders made refusing or cancelling registration	...	...	...	Nil
(4) Number of appeals against such orders	...	...	...	Nil
(5) Number of cases in which such orders have been—				
(a) confirmed on appeal	...	...	...	Nil
(b) disallowed	...	...	...	Nil
(6) Number of applications for exemption from registration	...	...	...	Nil
(7) Number of cases in which exemption has been—				
(a) granted	...	...	...	Nil
(b) withdrawn	...	...	...	Nil
(c) refused	...	...	...	Nil

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.--Purchased in bulk from the Liverpool Corporation, and is gathered from upland moors. It is frequently chemically examined and found satisfactory. The lead solvency action found to exist some years ago is effectively checked by systematic treatment. Service reservoir equals one day's supply. Average daily consumption per head, 19·07 gallons.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The whole of the urban portion of the district is sewered. There is no separate system for surface water. The sewage is treated by the Leigh and Atherton Joint Sewerage Board, situated in the Borough, by means of bacterial filter beds. The effluents are satisfactory.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The district is drained by the river Glaze and its tributaries, all running in a southerly direction and emptying into the Manchester Ship Canal. All the streams are very tortuous, and the water slow running. Coal-mining subsidence has further interfered with the flow. The effect of the work of straightening and deepening the streams carried out during the last two years by the Drainage Board and continued by the South Lancashire Rivers Catchment Board, is already apparent in the diminution of flooding of the low-lying parts.

The condition of the streams is carefully watched and any pollution is brought to the notice of the Mersey and Irwell Joint Committee. No such occasion has arisen during the year.

Closet Accommodation.

Number of Houses	...	...	...	11,600
Fresh Water Closets	...	...	...	10,620
Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	840
Privies	...	...	...	76 (No water supply or sewer available).
Pails	...	...	...	7

Water closets have now been provided to all houses where a water supply and sewers are available.

The number of conversions during the last five years was 80.

Scavenging.—Street scavenging, collection and disposal of house refuse are undertaken by the Cleansing Committee of the Corporation.

Ashpits and Bins in the district :—

Dry Ashpits	...	...	...	...	3,779
Bins	...	...	...	...	12,288

The following details have been supplied by the Superintendent of that Department :—

Number of Ashpits, Bins and Pails emptied :—

Ashbins emptied	...	...	...	613,711
Ashpits emptied	...	...	...	414
Loads removed	...	...	...	6,413
Weight of refuse	...	...	...	12,102 tons
Dealt with at Destructor	...	...	...	577 tons
Delivered to Tips	...	...	...	11,525 tons

No extension of the service has taken place during the year.

Dry house refuse is collected by horsedrawn containers, (Pagefield System), and refuse from earth closets and privies by horse and cart. Dry house refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping, and the refuse from earth closets and privies by incineration. Cesspools are cleansed by gully tank, and their contents distributed on farm land.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

(a) Summary of Inspections.

In connection with Infectious Diseases					
(a) Primary				...	192
(b) Re-visits				...	841
Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	639
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	33
Dairies and Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	261
Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	57
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	38
Common Lodging-houses	...	...	...	...	4
Vans and Tents	...	...	...	...	7
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	137
Factories	...	...	...	...	29
Workshops	...	...	...	...	75

Schools	...	...	...	...	...	33
Ice Cream Makers	...	...	...	...	...	48
Canal Boats	...	...	...	...	...	20
Houses inspected—						
(a) For Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	398
(b) Under Housing Acts (excluding (a) )	...	...	...	...	...	1497
Re-visits for Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	1373
Visits for other causes	...	...	...	...	...	1461
Interviews with Owners	..	...	...	...	...	87
,, Contractors	...	...	..	...	...	34

(b) Defects or Nuisances found.

Defective House Drains	...	...	...	...	...	324
,, Gullies	...	...	...	...	...	62
,, Sink Pipes	...	...	...	...	...	43
,, Sinks	...	...	...	...	...	9
,, Water Closets	..	...	...	...	...	177
,, Ashbins	...	...	...	...	..	35
,, Spouting	..	...	...	...	...	120
,, Roofs	...	...	...	...	..	184
,, Pavements, Channelling and Yards	...	...	...	...	...	25
Filthy Houses	...	..	...	...	...	18
Damp Houses	...	...	...	...	...	67
Insufficient Ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	15
Other Defects	...	...	...	...	...	208

(c) Notices Served.

(a) Informal	...	...	...	...	...	561
(b) Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	25

(d) Result.

Number of Nuisances dealt with	...	...	...	...	1287
,, abated after statutory notice	...	...	...	...	105
,, informal notice	...	...	...	...	1151

SMOKE ABATEMENT

One of the chief tasks confronting Local Authorities at the present day is the purification of the atmosphere. This does not mean that nothing has been done in this direction, but the problem is not yet solved.

It is difficult to decide how much injury to health is caused by atmospheric pollution. A Smoke-laden atmosphere certainly increases the incidence of, and the deaths from, respiratory diseases, and shuts out to some extent the solar ultra-violet rays.

According to the local bye-law the emission of black smoke for a period of two minutes in the aggregate within any continuous half-hour is presumed to be a nuisance if coming from any one chimney other than that of a dwellinghouse.

During the year 109 Smoke observations of various chimneys within the Borough have been made, each observation being of half-an-hour's duration.

On 51 occasions chimneys were observed to emit smoke of such a character and density as to be a nuisance within the meaning of the Smoke Abatement Act 1926, and contrary to the provisions of the bye-law. In each instance where there was an excessive emission of Smoke an informal notice was sent to the owners of the premises calling their attention to the matter.

Nuisance from boiler chimneys arises in three ways :—

- (1) By furnaces not constructed in such a way that they consume their own smoke.
- (2) By careless stoking.
- (3) By forcing furnaces beyond their working capacity.

It has been amply demonstrated that black smoke is preventable, and is an indication of careless and wasteful methods of combustion.

No prosecution has been undertaken.

The Local Authority is a member of the Manchester & District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee.

No of observations.....	109
Duration of observations.....	30 minutes
No. of excessive emissions of Smoke.....	51
Percentage of total observations.....	46.8

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-laws and Regulations :—

Public Baths	2
Slaughter-houses Registered	11
„ „ Licensed	6
Offensive Trades—	
Tripe Boilers	2
Common Lodging-houses	1
Maternity Home	1
Tents, Vans and similar structures used for human habitation.	
Dairies and Cowsheds.	
Houses let in Lodgings.	

There are no underground sleeping rooms in the Borough. I therefore do not see the need for Bye-laws regarding them.

OTHER SANITARY CONDITIONS REQUIRING NOTICE

The South-West end of the district is subject to considerable subsidence from coal mining. Accumulation of water and serious damage to the sewers result. In flood time the sewers overflow, on account of the disturbance of their levels, and sewage runs into the accumulated water causing serious pollution of practically stagnant pools.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 AND 1928

There are no premises on which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

CANAL BOATS ACTS.

Inspected... ..	20
Registered and in use	129
New Boats registered	Nil
Infringements reported ..	Nil

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT.

The Health Committee have an arrangement with three voluntary rat-catchers to pay the cost of two dog licences, three ferrets and the required amount of netting each year in return for spare-time service.

During the year 1430 rats were destroyed.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces. (Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspec- tions (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories..... (Including Factory Laundries).	29	7	Nil
Workshops..... (Includ. Workshop Laundries).	113	Nil	Nil
Workplaces..... (Other than Outworkers' premises).	185	Nil	Nil
Total.....	327	7	Nil

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remed'd (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Want of cleanliness.....	2	2	—	—
Want of ventilation.....	5	5	—	—
Overcrowding.....	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances.....	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation:				
Insufficient.....	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable & defective	—	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes..	—	—	—	—
Other Offences.....	—	—	—	—
Total.....	7	7	—	—

SCHOOLS

Elementary

	<i>Schools</i>		<i>Departments</i>		<i>Accommodation</i>
Provided.....	5	....	6	....	2020
Non-Provided	17	....	29	....	8321
	—		—		—
Total.....	22	....	35	....	10341
	—		—		—

Junior Day Technical School..... 1

Secondary

Girls..... 1

Boys..... 1

Private..... 1

The Public Elementary Schools are frequently visited and the sanitary arrangements kept under strict observation. Defects are reported to the Education Committee for attention.

All the Schools are supplied by the Corporation water supply and have a sufficiency of fresh water closet accommodation. Some of them are on the trough system and are intended to be flushed automatically.

The system is not satisfactory ; it is too dependent on the personal element, and all caretakers are not sufficiently interested in this part of their work. Great vigilance is necessary to maintain a reasonable condition of cleanliness. Conversion to wash down flush system is being carried out at most of the Schools.

The provision for washing at some of the Schools is far from satisfactory, and lack the degree of cleanliness desirable in a teaching establishment.

The cloak-rooms are not suitable, badly lighted and unheated in most Schools.

A defect common to nearly all Schools in the Borough is the unpaved playground. Cinders are generally used to cover the ground surrounding the School building, with the result that in dry weather a cloud of black dust is floating about, and on wet days the children have to play in a black quagmire, much of which is carried on the boots and clogs and deposited in the class-room.

Efforts are being made to reduce the obnoxious conditions by paving at least some portion of the yards.

The three age groups and "specials" are inspected yearly in the Public Elementary Schools.

An Inspection Clinic is held weekly for the re-inspection of those found defective, examination of children convalescent from infectious diseases before re-admission to School, inspection of children referred to the Clinic by teachers, etc., including those receiving treatment at the Minor Ailment Clinics.

Clinics for the treatment of dental defects, tonsils and adenoids, defective vision, ear, nose and throat diseases, and the application of artificial sunlight, are provided.

Efforts to prevent the spread of infectious disease in the Schools have been carried out for some years much on the lines recommended in the Board of Education's Memorandum on Closure of and Exclusion from School, 1925.

All School children, whether attending public or private Schools, suffering from an infectious disease are excluded from School for a definite period according to the particular disease, and not re-admitted except on the certificate of the Medical Officer of Health, who is also School Medical Officer.

Home contacts are excluded for two days only. For the next 14 days or so special arrangements are made for them to visit the Clinic each School day, and unless examination reveals evidence of illness they are sent on to School.

By this means they are under the daily observation of the Health Staff, and the loss of School attendance diminished.

The ascertainment of notifiable infectious cases is generally secured by notifications by medical practitioners. Cases of non-notifiable diseases are reported by Head Teachers, Health Nurses, School Attendance Officers, parents and the Principals of Private Schools.

The Schools are disinfected on the occasion of an outbreak of infectious disease and during holidays.

The personal books and school appliances of infectious cases are destroyed or occasionally disinfected, and the desk and its surroundings occupied by the child well washed with disinfectant.

It is rare to be able to trace infection to a School mate except in the case of Measles and Whooping Cough. The home of the infectious child is fumigated by gaseous formaldehyde on convalescence or removal.

The following table shows the number of pre-school children dealt with at the School Treatment Clinics during 1933 :—

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

<i>Clinic</i>	<i>Number of individual children</i>	<i>Number of Attendances</i>
Minor Ailments.....	13	44
Operative (Tonsils and Adenoids).....	6	6
Eye.....	2	6
Artificial Sunlight.....	41	844
Ear, Nose and Throat.....	7	23
Dental.....	47	74
Orthopaedic.....	4	5
TOTAL.....	120	1002

HOUSING

General Remarks.

The chief housing activities during the year can be placed under three headings :—

- (a) Representation and confirmation of Clearance Orders in respect of 75 houses.
- (b) Building of 218 houses by the Corporation.
- (c) Preparation and adoption of the 5 years plan of slum clearance.

(a) Representation was made to the Council in March in respect of 82 houses containing 453 persons in six areas. Clearance Orders were made in April and confirmed by the Minister in October with the exception of 7 houses forming part of one area. These houses were excluded by the Minister on an undertaking being given that the necessary work would be carried out to the satisfaction of the Local Authority.

The rehousing was completed by the middle of January, 1934.

Unfortunately it was soon found that a number of the new houses were infested with vermin, principally bugs. Careful inspection made it evident that they had been conveyed by the tenants in their furniture and bedding. Efforts are being made to eradicate the vermin and steps will be taken in future to disinfest, probably by cyanide, articles and materials found or suspected to be infested.

(b) During the year the Corporation completed the erection of 218 houses and had 112 more houses in course of erection.

Of the total number, 85 were allotted for rehousing displaced tenants.

(c) Five Years Programme.

As the result of the survey, 445 houses occupied by 1985 persons were scheduled for demolition, and a time table adopted to complete the work during the year 1938-39.

An additional 622 houses were scheduled as being capable of reconditioning.

A considerable number of these are being dealt with after prolonged negotiations in most cases.

A commencement of the programme of demolition was made by a representation after the end of the year in respect of 93 houses occupied by 399 persons in 9 areas.

The work of building the houses for rehousing has commenced and it is anticipated that they will be ready for occupation by the time an Order is likely to become operative.

It is intended to carry out the 5 years programme and time table by continuous operation in co-ordination with the rehousing programme.

HOUSING.

No. of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers separately under (b) ...	505
(i) By Local Authority	296
(ii) By other Local Authorities	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons	209
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
(i) By Local Authority	296
(ii) By other bodies or persons	—

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1895
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	3939
(2) (a) Number of Dwelling-houses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925... ..	1497
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	3143
(3) Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation... ..	445
(4) Number of Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	1052

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	373
--	-----

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. Proceedings under Section 17, 18, and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(a) by Owners	Nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	25
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice—	
(a) by Owners	22
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	Nil
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ..	Nil

D. Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) **Milk Supply.**—Samples are frequently taken and tested for cleanliness.

Cowsheds and Dairies are frequently inspected. During the year 261 visits were made.

Samples are submitted for bacterial content and tubercle infection.

The sale of milk in bottles is increasing, supplies of Grade “A,” Pasteurised, and Sterilised being available.

The Veterinary Inspector made 158 visits during the year and found 12 milch cows suffering from tuberculosis.

The number of distributors of designated milk is as follows :—

Certified ...	...	...	...	2
Grade "A" ...	...	...	...	11
Pasteurised ...	...	...	...	5

The following is the state of the register on December 31st, 1933 :—

Cowkeepers ...	...	...	57
Retail Purveyors ...	...	...	152
Dairy Farms ...	...	...	50

(b) **Meat and other Foods.**—The slaughter-houses are visited regularly following notice of intention to slaughter and at irregular times. Four hundred and ninety-eight visits were made, and the following number of carcasses inspected :—Cattle, 2,752 ; Sheep, 5,823 ; Pigs, 580 ; Total, 9,155 carcasses.

The shops, stalls and vehicles are also kept under constant observation.

There is a general inclination to comply with the Meat Regulations.

There is no public slaughter-house.

Private slaughter-houses : Registered 11 ; Licensed 6 ; Total 17.

With the exception of three they are small and scattered about the district. Efforts are made to secure voluntary surrender of the registered slaughter-houses as opportunity arises.

The following unsound food was voluntarily surrendered, condemned and destroyed :—

Beef ...	...	...	17,085 lbs.
Pork ...	...	...	691 ,,
Mutton ...	...	...	112 ,,

(c) **Adulteration, etc.**—The Lancashire County Council carry out the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts. Samples for analysis are taken by the County Police.

The Local Police Superintendent reports that during 1933 the following samples were taken in the area and submitted to the Public Analyst for examination :—

Milk.....92	
Butter..... 5	Tinned Prawns..... 1
Lard..... 6	Cocoa..... 2
Cheese..... 2	Malted Milk Cocoa..... 1
Margarine..... 5	Tea..... 2
Tinned Fish..... 3	Egg Substitute..... 1
Jelly..... 3	Gravy Browning..... 2
Sugar..... 3	Malted Milk Food..... 1
Marmalade..... 3	Tinned Fruit..... 1
Tinned Peas..... 1	Fruit Pectin..... 1
Lemon Cheese..... 4	Glycerine..... 1
Tinned Tongue..... 1	Flour..... 1
Custard Powder..... 1	Ginger..... 1
Tinned Milk..... 2	Cornflour..... 1
Coffee..... 3	Bi-Carb. Soda..... 1
Oatmeal..... 1	Syrup..... 1
Jam..... 2	Pepper..... 1
Total 156	

There have been no prosecutions during the year.

(d) **Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.**—Chemical analysis is carried out by the Public Analyst. Bacteriological analysis is carried out by :—

- (1) Evans' Biological Institute, Runcorn.
- (2) Public Health Laboratory of the Manchester University.

(e) **Nutrition.—Special Anthropometric Inquiry.**

The subject of nutrition has lately been much to the fore, and the question as to whether or not our children are suffering from under-nourishment as a result of the present economic conditions has been one which has been much discussed of recent months.

The School Medical staff has been on the alert for any obvious signs of malnutrition in the children, both during routine inspection at the schools, and special inspection at the Clinics. It was considered

that a very useful purpose would be served if a nutrition survey was made of a number of school children taking these as a sample of the school population. The children were not selected in any way apart from the fact that only three definite age groups were chosen, these corresponding to the ages at which Routine Medical Inspection is carried out.

It must be remembered that one cannot form an estimate of the nutrition of an individual child by taking into account the height and weight alone. A detailed clinical examination must accompany the measurement of height and weight. It is considered, however, that a fair index of the physique of a batch of children may be obtained from the records of their heights and weights. This accordingly has been done and the records of 861 school children, who were examined during 1933, have been investigated.

To provide a comparison with the year 1932 the records of 488 children who were examined during that year have also been searched.

These figures are including in the one table following, and immediately below there is given, also for comparative purposes, the standard tables published by the Anthropometric Committee of the British Association.

The three age groups investigated contained children who were of 5, 8 and 12 years of age, at the date when the height and weight were recorded.

The number investigated does not of course approximate to the actual number of children examined at routine inspection during the year since in examining each group many children are inspected who are at the date of examination under that age but who would reach that age during the year, *e.g.*, many entrants are examined when they are 4 years of age.

It will be seen from the table that in the 5 years group the children attending the Leigh elementary schools are above the standard of height, and their average weight is only a fraction below the British Association standard.

In the 8 years group the average height is again above the standard for both boys and girls, and the average weight again only slightly below.

In the 12 years group the figures both for boys and girls compare very favourably with the British Association standard.

The statistical evidence seems to demonstrate that there is no deterioration in the physique or nutrition of the School children in the area in 1933 compared with 1932, but on the other hand a slight but definite increase in the average height and weight.

It will also be evident that the 1933 figures in most instances are above the British Association standard.

	Age	HEIGHT		WEIGHT		No. of Children included		Totals
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
		ft. ins.	ft. ins.	lbs.	lbs.			
Leigh, 1932.....	5	3 5.2	3 4.25	40.2	37.4	89	78	167
Leigh, 1933.....		3 5.4	3 5	39.5	38.9	144	136	280
B.A.A.C.....		3 4	3 3	40	39	95	94	189
Leigh, 1932.....	8	3 11.3	3 11.5	51.3	51	69	73	142
Leigh, 1933.....		3 11.7	3 11.5	53.8	51.7	137	130	267
B.A.A.C.....		3 11	3 10.5	55	52	103	89	192
Leigh, 1932.....	12	4 6.2	4 7.2	75.2	74.3	105	74	179
Leigh, 1933.....		4 7	4 7.3	75.3	77	105	209	314
B.A.A.C.....		4 7	4 7.5	76.75	76.5	138	99	237

B.A.A.C.—British Association Anthropometric Committee.

PREVELANCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The following diseases were compulsorily notifiable in the area :—

Small-pox
Cholera
Membranous Croup
Erysipelas
Scarlet Fever
Typhus Fever
Typhoid Fever
Enteric Fever
Continued Fever
Relapsing Fever
Puerperal Fever
Cerebro-Spinal Fever
Acute Poliomyelitis
Encephalitis Lethargica
Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Tuberculosis
Malaria
Dysentery
Trench Fever
Acute Primary Pneumonia
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia

A small outbreak of Smallpox (5 cases) occurred in the Borough during March and April, 1933. A full report has already been made.

SUMMARY OF NOTIFICATIONS OF THE PRINCIPAL INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disease.	Case Rate per 1000 living, Leigh.
Small-pox	0·11
Scarlet Fever...	1·21
Diphtheria	0·35
Enteric Fever	0·02
Puerperal Fever	0·02
Puerperal Pyrexia	0·09
Erysipelas	0·44

Difficulty has been experienced in making satisfactory arrangements for the after-care of cases of Encephalitis Lethargica.

Residence in an institution is the most suitable treatment for most of the surviving patients sooner or later. Unfortunately there is no institution catering for this class of case.

Disinfection of premises and materials is carried out by the staff of the Public Health Department. All dwelling-houses are dealt with on death, removal or convalescence of infectious patients. Other premises are frequently disinfected on request, and where necessity is apparent. The Schools are also frequently disinfected—particularly during periods of epidemics, or the known presence of an infectious child. Private Schools are treated on request. Gaseous Formaldehyde is used for buildings, and a steam disinfector is available for clothes, bedding, etc. One hundred and thirty premises were disinfected during the year on account of the following diseases :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	47
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	5
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	14
Phthisis	...	...	...	...	55
Smallpox...	...	...	...	...	4
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	1
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	1
Total	..	...	...	...	130

Steam disinfection of the following bedding was carried out :—

No. of Beds from Institutions	...	...	23
„ Bundles of Bedclothes	...	...	7
Total	...	...	30

Library books found in houses in which infectious disease is present are confiscated and either disinfected and returned to the Library, or, if dirty and dilapidated, destroyed.

The following are particulars of Library books so dealt with :—

No. of Books disinfected and returned to Library...	...	...	29
No. of Books destroyed...	...	...	—
Total	...	...	<u>29</u>

No use has been made of the Schick and Dick tests or immunization against Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever.

No vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small-pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

Information of the presence of non-notifiable infectious diseases is very scant. A few cases of illness were notified by the parents, but the majority were ascertained through the Teachers, School Attendance Officers and Health Nurses.

As far as possible each case was visited by a Health Nurse at least once to impress on the parents the importance of medical attendance. When infectious cases are prevalent the Head Teacher of each School makes a daily return of children absent from School on account of illness supposed to be infectious. This practice is found to be of great service, particularly in the case of non-notifiable infectious diseases.

CANCER.

The following tables give some particulars with regard to the deaths from Cancer during the year 1933 :—

Sex :—	Male.....28	} Total 63
	Female.....35	

Occupation :—	Housewife.....32
	Coal Miner..... 9
	Outdoor Labourer..... 5
	Cotton Operative..... 4
	Miscellaneous.....13

SITE	Breast.	Liver.	Lungs.	Uterus.	Stomach	Rectum.	Other parts of Digestive tract.	Larynx.	Glands and Skin	Miscellaneous.	Total.
Number	5	10	2	8	12	1	4	2	2	17	63

AGE.	Under 50.	50-55.	55-60.	60-65.	65-70.	70-75.	75-80.	Over 80.	Total.
Number	9	4	14	10	13	11	2	—	63

The recorded number of deaths due to cancer shows a decrease for the year of 14, being 63 as against 77 for 1932, giving a crude death-rate of 1.39 per thousand compared with 1.69 for 1932.

The death-rate of this disease is somewhat higher than that of England and Wales.

An address on Cancer was delivered during the Health Week and a brochure on the subject distributed. Pamphlets are also handed to mothers attending the Welfare Centres.

There is no disinfecting station ; bedding and other clothing are treated in the steam disinfector.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin and swabs are supplied by the Local Authority and special arrangements are made to facilitate the distribution to medical practitioners so that they may always have in their possession at least one swab and a preliminary dose of serum for immediate use. They are urged to administer an early application even to doubtful cases of the disease.

Schultz-Charlton outfits are available at the Public Health Department for practitioners who desire their assistance in arriving at a diagnosis of Scarlet Fever.

The majority of the cases of Acute Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia are notified.

The Infectious Hospital is controlled by the Leigh Joint Hospital Board.

The average length of the patients' stay in hospital has certainly not been shortened.

Scarlet Fever cases are nursed at home when conditions are suitable.

Diphtheria patients are almost invariably sent into Hospital.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

			Total Cases notified.		Total Deaths.		No. of Cases removed to Hospital.		No. of Deaths in Hospital.
Small-pox	...	...	5	...	—	...	5	...	—
Diphtheria	...	...	16	...	—	...	14	...	—
Erysipelas	...	...	20	...	—	...	4	...	2
Scarlet Fever	...	...	55	...	—	..	41	...	—
Enteric Fever	...	...	1	...	—	...	1	...	—
Puerperal Fever...	...	...	1	...	—	...	1	...	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	4	...	—	...	1	...	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum			5	...	—	...	1	...	—
Pneumonia	...	...	107	...	—	...	—	...	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever			3	...	—	...	2	...	2
Acute Poliomyelitis			1	...	—	..	—	...	—

Analysis of Cases of Infectious Disease notified, Number of Deaths from these Diseases, Number of Cases removed to Hospital, and Deaths in Hospital during the year 1933.

DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED											HOSPITAL		
	Total Cases at all ages	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 and over	Total Deaths
Smallpox ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ...	16	—	1	2	—	1	1	2	1	7	1	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	20	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	9	2	—
Scarlet Fever ...	55	—	3	3	8	3	27	9	2	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Acute Primary Pneumonia ...	107	2	10	5	5	5	11	5	7	24	12	16	5	36
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chickenpox ...	25	3	2	1	2	—	11	2	3	1	—	—	—	—
Any other Disease notified in the District: ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	242	11	16	14	15	9	50	21	14	39	21	25	7	38
														70
														4

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum are nursed at home by the Health Nurses. If the Medical Attendant requests, the patient and mother are admitted into the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital under arrangements made by the Local Authority with the Hospital.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Number Notified.	CASES TREATED.		Vision Un- impaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
5	4	1	5	Nil	Nil	Nil

TUBERCULOSIS.

This service is under the control of the Lancashire County Council. The central dispensary of one of the county areas is situated in the town. The following statement of particulars regarding the district, was supplied by the Consultant Tuberculosis Officer :—

	Adults.		Children.	Total.
	15 and over.			
No. of cases admitted to Sanatoria	...	2	...	3
No. of cases admitted to Pulmonary Hospitals	39	...	1	...
No. of cases admitted to General Hospitals	3	...	9	..
No. of cases granted Skin Hospital Treatment	1	...	1	...
No. of cases granted Artificial Light Treatment	9	...	11	...
No. of cases granted X-Ray examination...	138	..	49	...
No. of cases granted Dispensary Supervision				
or Dispensary Treatment	...	162	...	33
No. of cases under supervision on 31st				
December, 1933	...	147	...	44
Pulmonary	...	80	5	85
Non-Pulmonary	...	56	37	93
Combined (Pulmonary & Non-Pulmonary)	...	11	2	13
Removed from Register during the year				
as recovered	...	32	...	6

The County Tuberculosis Dispensary, 13 Church Street, is open each Wednesday and Friday at 10-0 a.m., and also on the second Thursday in each month at 6-30 p.m. for patients who are working. Close co-operation has been maintained between Medical Practitioners, including the School Medical Officer, who regularly sends children with suspicious symptoms, and the Tuberculosis Staff. Working in close association with the Dispensary, there is a voluntary Care

Committee which meets monthly at the Dispensary for the purpose of providing clothing, nourishment, &c., for poor consumptives in order to enable them to persevere with their long course of treatment, and prevent their becoming chargeable to the Public Assistance Committee.

Artificial Light Treatment is now available for patients from this Dispensary.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1933.

NEW CASES.							DEATHS.			
Age periods.		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
Years.		M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	...	0	0	0	0	...	0	0	0	0
1-5	...	0	0	2	0	...	0	0	0	0
5-10	...	1	1	2	3	...	0	4	0	0
10-15	...	3	2	2	3	...	1	0	0	0
15-20	...	1	3	1	2	...	0	1	2	1
20-25	...	4	4	1	1	...	2	2	0	0
25-35	...	4	6	1	0	...	3	3	1	1
35-45	...	4	3	1	1	...	3	4	0	0
45-55	...	2	1	0	0	...	5	0	0	0
55-65	...	2	1	0	0	...	3	0	0	0
65 and upwards	...	0	0	0	0	...	0	0	0	0
		21	21	10	10	..	17	14	3	2
Totals		42		20			31		5	

The ratio of non-notified deaths from Tuberculosis during the year was three to sixty-two.

OCCUPATION OF NOTIFIED TUBERCULOSIS CASES.

Under 5 years ...	...	2	Cable Worker ...	...	2
Scholars (5 to 14 years) ...	14		Haulage Hand... ..	...	2
Domestic	8		Billposter ... ..	...	1
Coal Miners	8		Property Repairer ...	...	1
No occupation ..	8		Clerk ... ..	...	1
Labourers	1				
Cotton Operatives ..	13				
Shop Assistant ...	1				

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER.

No. of Cases—	Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.			Total Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total
(a) On Register at commencement of year..1933.....	91	59	150	73	73	146	164	132	296
(b) Notified for first time during year...	21	21	42	10	10	20	31	31	62
(c) Removed from Reg- ister in preceding year and restored.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Added to Register during the year ascertained other- wise than by noti- fication under Reg- ulations.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (a), (b), (c) and (d).....	112	80	192	83	83	166	195	163	358
(e) Cases removed from Register during year	36	22	58	13	14	27	49	36	85
(f) Cases remaining on Register at end of year..1933.....	76	58	134	70	69	139	146	127	273

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS)
REGULATIONS, 1925.

No employee of the milk trade was notified as suffering from Tuberculosis.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925—SECTION 62.

No occasion arose requiring the Section to be used.

PROPAGANDA

“Health Week” was held from February 12th to February 19th, 1933. A handbook setting out the scheme of lectures and containing articles on health subjects was prepared as in former years. Meetings

in various parts of the town were addressed by Miss M. M. Tipper, Lancashire County Council Health Lecturer, and by Mr. T. Bowen Partington. Health Talks were given at the Schools and infant welfare centres and dinner hour meetings at various works were addressed by Mr. T. B. Partington.

Approximately 2,000 senior children were instructed by means of blackboard talks.

The evening lectures arranged in various schools and halls in the Borough were not so well attended as they might have been, and there seems to exist a degree of apathy to health instruction among the general public.

The Annual Leigh Infirmary Carnival and Demonstration was made use of for propaganda purposes.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The scheme for treatment is administered by the County Council

There is no centre for treatment in the town, but a choice can be made from Bolton, Wigan, Manchester, Salford and Warrington, all very accessible, and fares are paid in necessitous cases.

The Public Health Department acts as an information bureau to patients and medical practitioners.

The County Council supplies outfits for the collection of specimens and examinations free of charge. Salvarsan substitutes are also supplied free to approved medical practitioners. The service provided is decidedly adequate, but patients fail to embrace the full benefit by stopping treatment prematurely. Some compulsory means to ensure full course is necessary before the expenditure entailed can be considered remunerative.



